

AMENDMENTS

Please amend the application as indicated hereafter.

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as indicated below. The language being added is underlined (“___”) and the language being deleted contains strikethrough (“—”):

1. (Currently Amended) A press fit fastener, comprising:
 - a shank having an axis, a first end and a second end;
 - a head being located at the first end of said shank; ~~and~~
 - a press fit portion being located at said shank, said press fit portion having an outer diameter and including a multiple helical profile, said multiple helical profile having fully formed multiple threads, each thread having at least one full thread revolution about the axis of said shank, said helical profile having a beginning portion and an inclination portion having an increasing outer diameter, the outer diameter of said inclination portion being designed to increase in a direction towards said head to reach a maximum outer diameter, the maximum outer diameter of said inclination portion being spaced apart from said head;
 - a centering section having an outer diameter, said centering section being located next to said beginning portion of said helical profile, the outer diameter of said centering section being smaller than the minimum outer diameter of said helical profile in the beginning portion; and
 - a conical portion having an outer diameter, said conical portion being located next to said centering portion, said conical portion being designed and arranged to taper in a

direction towards said second end such that the diameter of said conical portion increases towards said centering section.

2. (Original) The fastener of claim 1, wherein said press fit portion further includes a declination portion in which the outer diameter decreases in a direction towards said head.

3. (Previously Presented) The fastener of claim 2, wherein said press fit portion is barrel-shaped.

4. (Original) The fastener of claim 1, wherein said press fit portion further includes a cylindrical adding portion, said cylindrical adding portion having the maximum outer diameter and being located next to said inclination portion in a direction towards said head.

5. (Original) The fastener of claim 2, wherein said press fit portion further includes a cylindrical adding portion, said cylindrical adding portion having the maximum outer diameter and being located next to said inclination portion in a direction towards said head.

6. (Original) The fastener of claim 4, wherein said cylindrical adding portion is located between said inclination portion and said declination portion.

7. (Original) The fastener of claim 5, wherein said cylindrical adding portion is located between said inclination portion and said declination portion.

8. (Previously Presented) The fastener of claim 1, wherein said helical profile includes at least six threads.
9. (Original) The fastener of claim 1, wherein said helical profile has an angle of inclination of between approximately 5° and 30° .
10. (Previously Presented) The fastener of claim 1, further comprising a threaded portion including a thread having a pitch diameter, said threaded portion being located at the second end of said shank in a direction facing away from said head, said helical profile having a core diameter which is greater than the pitch diameter of said thread.
11. (Previously Presented) The fastener of claim 1, further comprising a threaded portion including a thread having a pitch diameter, said threaded portion being located at the second end of said shank in a direction facing away from said head, said helical profile having a core diameter which approximately equals the pitch diameter of said thread.

12. (Currently Amended) The fastener of claim 1, further comprising:

a threaded portion including a thread having an outer diameter, said threaded portion being located at the second end of said shank in a direction facing away from said head
wherein; and

~~a centering section having an outer diameter, said centering section being located next to said beginning portion of said helical profile, the outer diameter of said centering section is being greater than the outer diameter of said thread and being smaller than the minimum outer diameter of said helical profile in the beginning portion.~~

13. (Original) The fastener of claim 12, wherein said centering section has an axial length which is approximately between 10% and 50% of the maximum outer diameter of said press fit portion.

14. (Original) The fastener of claim 12, wherein said centering section has an axial length which is approximately 25% of the maximum outer diameter of said press fit portion.

15. (Currently Amended) The fastener of claim 1, wherein the press fit fastener is designed as a wheel stud.

16. – 18. (Canceled)

19. (New) The fastener of claim 1, wherein the inclination portion forms at least approximately 10% of the axial length of the multiple helical profile.